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LOGNOTE -- Chief, Operations Group, 19 April 1985

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1. (Baker) C/AS, C/London Bureau, C/Gulf Bureau, C/Jordan Bureau and I discussed the case of Gulf's Persian monitor, [redacted] currently in Bahrain on the basis of a No Objection Certificate and a British travel document. The travel document needs annual renewal and is slated to expire early in 1986. When they last renewed it the Home Office indicated that there would be no further extensions and that if [redacted] wanted to pursue UK citizenship he would have to return to England to meet a 3-year residency requirement.

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London Bureau sent a request for renewal to the Home Office several months ago which elicited a request for another form to be filled out by [redacted]. The response to this is still pending. If positive, another year will have been brought; if negative, the option remains to seek a waiver of Home Office policy on the basis of [redacted] value to the UK and U.S. governments. [redacted] believes the present approach--which was a direct request between the bureau and the Home Office--may yet be successful; if not, he would favor enlisting Station support. A third option would be a BBC effort with either the FCO or Home Office. Bill believes the Home Office will respond in sufficient time for another demarche to be launched, if need be, before the expiration of [redacted] travel document.

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If all fails, [redacted] might be employed either by BBC or by London Bureau/PMU. Bill thinks the BBC would hire him, though they are up to T/O in Persian. However, he might also do Persian press, at a higher salary, for the PMU. AG is interested in faster processing of that material, which is available at London in good time. As a PMU employee, [redacted] would be a local hire, but would have a better salary than BBC could offer.

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In sum, the string of available options has not been exhausted. Ideally, [redacted] can make the best contribution at Gulf Bureau, but if we can't swing that there are alternatives.

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(cc: C/AS, C/P&TB, C/London Bureau, C/Jordan Bureau)